SENATE RESOLUTION 131 By Henry

A RESOLUTION commending The Republic of China (Taiwan) on its full-fledged democracy and its contributions to promoting world peace, freedom, and human rights.

WHEREAS, The Republic of China (Taiwan) and the United States of America are friends and allies of long standing, both dearly cherishing the commonly shared values of freedom, democracy, and human rights; and

WHEREAS, The Republic of China (Taiwan) is the world's 16th largest economy and the United States' 8th largest trading partner, as well as being the 5th largest market for U.S. agricultural products; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee and The Republic of China (Taiwan) have enjoyed mutually beneficial sister-state relations since 1980, a relationship both expected to grow and prosper; and

WHEREAS, The Republic of China (Taiwan) is a willing and contributing member of the world community and looks forward to participating more actively in international organizations such as the United Nations and the World Health Organization, a goal deserving support from the international community; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee looks forward to facilitating and enhancing trade and investment opportunities with The Republic of China (Taiwan); and

WHEREAS, the March 20, 2004, Presidential Election for The Republic of China (Taiwan), the third direct election of The Republic of China's President, will again demonstrate to all that mature democracy flourishes in Taiwan, and that its peoples should be able to continue to express their will freely and determine their own future without coercion, such as the hostile missile deployment from mainland China; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that the 2004 Presidential Election and the full-fledged democracy in The Republic of China (Taiwan) are commended and supported by this State and this General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chief Clerk of the Senate is authorized and directed to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to Rong-Chuan Wu, Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Atlanta.

- 2 - 01219716